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**Subject:** Flint Readout 08/26/16

State testing in August shows less lead in Flint water

By Matthew Dolan, Detroit Free Press 08/26/16 12:37 PM

The latest testing of drinking water in Flint by the state shows the city generally meets federal standards for lead levels despite concerns about elevated levels in some locations. George Krisztian, the Flint Action Plan coordinator for the state Department of Environmental Quality, told a Flint coordinating committee of local and state officials and outside experts on Friday that results in August demonstrated "a lot of good news" for the lead-contaminated water supply system.

## Flint Health Concerns

### Experts: Many Flint Residents Not Taking Advantage Of Health Programs

By CBS Detroit 08/26/16 12:09 PM

Members of a special committee looking into the Flint water crisis met Friday to discuss the latest efforts to ensure everyone is receiving the best medical treatment possible. And it wasn't positive. State health director Nick Lyons says there are numerous programs available, but many people aren't taking advantage. "You can't generally force people into doing something that they don't want to do," Lyons said. "Although that does not change our desire to impact every family that has been affected by the water."

### Flint residents describe conditions of ongoing water crisis

By Carlos Delgado, World Socialist Web Site 08/25/16

Federal emergency funding for the Flint water crisis ended on August 14th. Since then, the city has had to turn to state funding and private donations to meet the needs of the population. Researchers from Virginia Tech, while noting in a recent press conference that the lead levels have significantly decreased in many homes, still caution that the water remains unsafe to drink. Residents must continue to use water filters and drink bottled water, or risk exposing themselves to dangerously high amounts of lead.

### Health officials: Flint water might have caused rashes

By Jim Lynch & Jacob Carah, Detroit News 08/24/16 10:20 AM

State and federal health officials have concluded the improperly treated river water provided to Flint over an 18-month period beginning in April 2014 "might" have been behind the skin problems and hair loss reported by many residents. "The (research team) ... found evidence supporting Flint residents' concern that water from the Flint River might have led to skin problems," said Dr. Nicole Lurie, who is the assistant secretary for preparedness and response with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "Fortunately, water samples from the city's current water did not show metals and minerals at levels that would cause or make rashes worse."

### Complaint says legionella investigators blocked from hospital since April

By Ron Fonger, MLIVE 08/26/16 11:19 AM

State health officials say they've been blocked from receiving information about Legionella cases and access to McLaren-Flint hospital since April, according to a Michigan Court of Appeals complaint filed Thursday, Aug. 25. The Department of Health and Human Services says in the complaint that it has been prevented from conducting a comprehensive investigation into Legionella at McLaren -- first by the hospital and then by three protective court orders that have allowed materials to be turned over to Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton's office and the county Health Department, but not DHHS.

#### Hospital records kept from public

By Joel Kurth & Karen Bouffard, Detroit News 08/26/16 9:46 AM

The Detroit Medical Center has had problems with dirty surgical instruments for more than 10 years, but the issue remained hidden in part because the public can't access most records about health care. The Detroit News on Thursday published an investigation showing that doctors have complained for years that improperly cleaned, broken and missing instruments have complicated and canceled dozens of operations at the system's five-hospital Midtown campus. The report was based on 200 pages of emails and internal reports that aren't public and were cloaked in secrecy by Michigan law.

#### State health officials challenge court order in water probe

By Click on Detroit 08/26/16 6:33 AM

The state has challenged a court order that bars a Flint hospital from contacting Michigan health officials about Legionella cases that may be related to the city's lead-tainted water troubles. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services says Thursday that a filing was made to the state appeals court.

#### State health department appeals secret court order, citing Legionella

By Emily Lawler, MLIVE 08/25/16 10:06 PM

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services on Thursday filed a Writ of Superintending Control in the Michigan Court of Appeals, arguing that a confidential order issued in the course of Attorney General Bill Schuette's Flint water investigation prevented the department from addressing Legionella. The order was issued on Aug. 17 by Genesee County Circuit Court Judge Geoffrey Neithercut, and limits information that the DHHS can receive from

the Genesee County Health Department and McLaren Hospital.

Snyder administration fights Schuette on health order

By Jonathan Oosting, Detroit News 08/25/16 7:38 PM

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services on Thursday took legal action against a court order that Gov. Rick Snyder says is preventing the state from fully investigating Legionella cases in Flint and Genesee County. The order, which limits contact between the state department and McLaren Hospital, was requested by Attorney General Bill Schuette and Genesee Prosecutor David Leyton as part of a probe into the Flint water crisis. It was issued Aug. 17 and amended Wednesday.

Riley: Schuette says 'nobody's off the table' in Flint probe

By Rochelle Riley, Detroit Free Press 08/25/16 2:00 PM

Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette said that his independent investigation into the Flint water crisis was delayed by his office getting the same bad information from the state Department of Environmental Quality that the governor says he received. But now that the investigation has begun, he said, it won't end until he has determined the role that everyone played in one of the nation's greatest clean water tragedies.

Michigan health dept. challenges court order in Flint water investigation

By Steve Carmody, Michigan Radio 08/25/16

The state Department of Health and Human Services is asking the Michigan Court of Appeals to overturn a lower court order blocking it from communicating with local officials in Flint. The protective order was issued by a Genesee County Circuit Court judge as part of the Attorney General's investigation into possible criminal activity in the Flint Water Crisis. To date, nine current and former state and local government employees have been criminally charged, including several from the state health department.

Gov. Snyder, AG Schuette at loggerheads over secret court order

By Emily Lawler, MLIVE 08/25/16 11:16 AM

Michigan's governor and attorney general will once again find themselves on opposite sides of a legal matter, this one stemming from a confidential court order related Legionnaire's Disease. As the two men once again find themselves on opposing sides of a public issue, one political analyst noted that the public shouldn't be put in a position where it's questioning whether public health is being affected by politics.

#### State and Local Agencies Bicker Over Flint Probe

By Michael Bologna Bloomberg BNA 08/25/16

The state of Michigan will challenge a confidential court order that interferes with two state agencies' efforts to monitor the drinking water crisis in Flint and a potential outbreak of Legionnaire's Disease, Gov. Rick Snyder (R) said Aug. 23. Snyder called on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to work with the Office of the Michigan Attorney General to challenge an order issued Aug. 17 by a Genesee County Circuit Court judge. The confidential order purports to bar the U.S. health agency and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality from coordinating with the Genesee County Health Department and McLaren Hospital on issues pertaining to Flint's drinking water problems and an emerging Legionnaire's Disease health threat. Genesee County includes Flint.

#### 'Confidential' court order obstructs Legionnaire's work, Gov. Rick Snyder says

By Emily Lawler, MLIVE 08/24/16 4:58 PM

Gov. Rick Snyder today announced that the state Department of Health and Human Services would challenge a court order they say limits contact between two state departments and the Genesee County Health Department or McLaren Hospital. The governor's office said in a press release that an Aug. 17 court order originating in Genesee County Circuit Court "purports to prohibit DHHS and the state Department of Environmental Quality from interacting with the Genesee County Health Department or McLaren Hospital on anything related to Flint and the recovery from the water crisis currently underway."

#### Governor Snyder Challenges Court Order Regarding Flint Water Crisis

By Megan Viecelli, 9 & 10 News 08/24/16 4:03 PM

Governor Snyder is challenging a court order regarding the Flint water crisis. The order blocks the McLaren hospital in Flint from contacting state health authorities on any future issues related to the city's water.

### Health chief says no issues since CDC replaced state on Flint Legionnaires' work

By Ron Fonger, MLIVE 08/24/16 3:33 PM

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has replaced the state Department of Health and Human Services in investigating deaths from Legionnaires' disease in Genesee County -- the result of a protective order issued last week by Genesee Circuit Judge Geoffrey L. Neithercut. Genesee County Health Officer Mark Valacak said Wednesday, Aug. 24, that the switch complies with the "confidential non-public" order signed by Neithercut and said the change has not slowed work on Legionnaires' cases, which officials have said could be related to water from the Flint River.

### Snyder, Schuette spar over Legionnaires' disease in Flint

By Jim Finkelstein, Detroit Free Press 08/24/16 10:39 AM

Gov. Rick Snyder's office will challenge a court order that it says would obstruct the state health department in its duty to protect citizens from a Legionnaires' disease outbreak. According to a press release Tuesday by the governor's office, a Genesee County circuit judge on Aug. 17 issued an order that Snyder says prohibits the Department of Health and Human Services from "interacting with the Genesee County Health Department or McLaren Hospital on anything related to Flint" and the water crisis there.

### Gov. Snyder seeks to undo court order in Flint water probe

By AP for WOOD NBC TV 8, 08/24/16 10:22 AM

Gov. Rick Snyder is challenging a court order that bars a Flint hospital from contacting state health authorities on any future issue related to the city's water woes. Snyder says the Aug. 17 order by a Genesee County judge has "tied the hands of state employees" to protect the public.

### Court order adds another 'layer of work' for Genesee County health department

By Steve Carmody, Michigan Radio 08/24/16

Genesee County health officials insist a court order restricting communication with state health officials is not preventing them from investigating cases of Legionnaires Disease. The court order is related to the Attorney General's investigation of the Flint water crisis. The Snyder

administration is challenging the order.

#### Snyder, Schuette clash on court order amid Flint probe

By Chad Livengood, Detroit News 08/23/16 10:40 PM

Gov. Rick Snyder's administration intends to challenge a circuit court judge's order prohibiting state health workers from interacting with the Genesee County Health Department and a Flint hospital amid new cases of the deadly Legionnaires' disease. Snyder on Tuesday directed the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to legally challenge Genesee County Judge Geoffrey Neithercut's order that the governor's office claimed barred any interaction between the state and officials at the county health agency and McLaren Hospital related to Flint's water crisis.

#### Schuette: Flint water crisis fallout 'far from done'

By Rick Albin WOOD NBC TV 8 08/23/16 5:21 PM

While nine people are facing charges in connection to the Flint water crisis, Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette says the investigation is not over yet. "I think we're way far from done," he told 24 Hour News 8 political reporter Rick Albin Tuesday. "I've now filed charges against nine individuals of varying levels of criminal complicity in this debacle and tragedy... and two civil suits against two big companies: one, a French conglomerate and two, a company based out of Texas who were hired to fix the problem but made a bad situation worse," Schuette explained.

## **Donations & Aid**

#### Crim Festival of Races makes changes in response to Flint's water crisis

By Steve Carmody, Michigan Radio 08/26/16 2:00 PM

More than 15,000 people will be tying on their running shoes tonight and tomorrow in Flint. This is the 40th anniversary of the Crim Festival of Races. But this year's event will be a little different. In response to the city's water crisis, race organizers redirected nearly \$40,000 in prize money for race winners to create free race entries for city residents. Crim race director Andrew Younger says organizers want to use the festival to promote healthier lifestyles, especially for those directly affected by the water crisis.

### Flint's second ward water resource site closed for the weekend

By Jiquanda Johnson, MLIVE 08/25/16 7:30 PM

St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, Flint's second ward water resource site, will be closed on Saturday, Aug. 27 due to prior commitments, said a press release issued by the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division. The site, located at 3020 Dupont Street, gives out bottled water, water filters, replacement cartridges and at-home water testing kits. They will stop distributing water resources at 8 p.m. on Friday Aug. 26. Those resources will be available at one of the other eight locations set up in the other Flint wards.

### General Motors Recycles Flint Michigan Water Bottles

By NetNewsLedger 08/25/16

General Motors is adding 2 million water bottles from Flint, Michigan residents into its Do Your Part water bottle recycling initiative. The company partnered with Schupan Recycling to collect the bottles. The plastic is washed, flaked and turned into fleece to make three products: Chevrolet Equinox V-6 engine covers, insulation for The Empowerment Plan coats for the homeless, and air filters for 10 GM plants. The program engages a supply web of 11 organizations and reduces landfill waste. The resulting social impact contributes to the initiative's progress and expansion.

### Howes: Upside of Flint water crisis is opportunity, aid

By Daniel Howes, Detroit News 08/25/16 6:49 AM

The Flint water crisis is creeping — slowly — toward some semblance of normalcy, but the recriminations and posturing aren't. Exhibits No. 1 and No. 2 come this week with yet another spat between Gov. Rick Snyder and Attorney General Bill Schuette over the role of state public health officials in Flint and, second, experts debating whether Flint's lead-tainted water "might" be blamed for rashes on residents.

### Howes: the possible upsides of Flint catastrophe

By Stateside Staff for Michigan Radio 08/25/16 [radio clip]

People in Flint are wondering if they'll ever have to stop worrying about proper filters, about the supply of bottled water, about giving kids a bath. It's been about a year since the lid blew off what the world knows now as the "Flint water crisis," and the biggest development this week is



another tug-of-war between Governor Snyder and Attorney General Bill Schuette over the Flint investigation.

#### This year's Crim tied to helping with Flint's water crisis

By ABC 12 08/24/16

The Crim has always been all about Flint and Flint pride, but this year even more so. The city's water crisis and the race are especially connected. "We see it as a health and wellness crisis we're going to have to deal with for years to come," said Andy Younger, race director at the Crim Fitness Foundation.

#### Back to school event to bring lead fighting foods, school supplies to Flint residents

By Jiquanda Johnson, MLIVE 08/25/16 8:44 PM

Community agencies have partnered to host a food and backpack giveaway on Saturday, Aug. 27 for Flint area residents with the Faith and Health Care Supporting Flint event at Grace Emmanuel Baptist Church. Residents can pick up foods to help mitigate the effects of lead, backpacks and school supplies from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church located at 3502 Lapeer Road in Flint.

#### Eminem New Album Delayed? Rap God Urges Fans to Help Poor Students in Flint, Michigan

By Kemberly Penton, Hall of Fame Magazine 08/25/16

One of the greatest rappers of all time, Eminem, has urged fans to help and support the poor students in Flint, Michigan. Amid rumors of a new album spreading online, the rap god has apparently encouraged everyone to focus on a greater cause. According to International Business Times, Eminem uses his fame to raise funds for a non-government organization. It gives supplies to public school students in Flint, Michigan. He has partnered with Kids in Need Foundation, which helps more than 5,000 children in the city. But Mathers believes that the children should come first. Marshall Mathers then wrote on Instagram, "Continuing to keep Flint in mind. 90% of the kids in their public school system live in poverty – give us a hand getting all 5,500 students a backpack full of supplies."

### Eminem Helping Flint Students Get School Supplies

By Trent Clark, Hip Hop 08/24/16 2:35 PM

As grade schools across the country begin to kick in high gear for the 2016 school year, rappers are stepping up to make sure the leaders of tomorrow have the tools they need succeed. Eminem has partnered with the Kids in Need Foundation to supply more than 5,000 children with school supplies in the Michigan city that's even worse off than his hometown of Detroit. The Flint water crisis is still ongoing two years after the lead poisoning epidemic hit national news with the most recent findings indicating that the water is causing skin irritations and rashes in many residents. Eminem, like most citizens, believe the kids come first.

### Renovation of Shuttered School Will Expand Access to Early Education for Flint Kids

By Business Wire 08/23/16 3:46 PM

The transformation of a shuttered elementary school into a hub of early childhood education services is underway in Flint, thanks to \$1 million in funding from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and \$500,000 from the Pritzker Children's Initiative, a program of the J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation. The grants to the Foundation for the Uptown Reinvestment Corporation (FURC) are covering the costs of renovations at the former Cummings Elementary School, located on the city's southwest side. The project includes extensive physical improvements to the school and surrounding campus, as well as the addition of new technology and furnishings. The Uptown Reinvestment Corporation, a supported organization of FURC, is overseeing the renovations.

### Eminem pushes public to donate school supplies to Flint kids

By Derick Hutchinson, Click on Detroit 08/23/16 8:06 PM

Detroit rapper Eminem took to Facebook Monday and asked the public to help Flint students by donating backpacks filled with school supplies. "Give us a hand getting all 5,500 students a backpack full of supplies," Eminem said in the post. Eminem said that 90 percent of children in the Flint public school system live in poverty.

### Mealey's Toxic Tort/Environmental - Flint Water Crisis Defendants: There Is No Constitutional Right To Drinking Water

By LexisNexis 08/23/16 5:45 PM

Employees of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) on Aug. 22 moved to dismiss a lawsuit filed in Michigan federal court by a purported class of Flint, Mich., residents, contending that they are entitled to absolute immunity with regard to the plaintiffs' claims stemming from the lead water crisis in Flint, and there is "no constitutional right to drinking water"

Michigan gov's DEQ choice reflects comfort with business perspective

By Gary Wilson, Great Lakes Echo 08/26/16 1:16 AM

That's right, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder really did appoint a former oil company executive, Heidi Grether, to run the state's equivalent of the U.S. EPA. Disbelief abounded. Post-Flint, people wondered how could he do that? The Detroit Free Press editorial board called the hiring a "sick joke."

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